

Press Release

HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Division of Emergency Operations



PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe
Harford"

EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,
Building for the Future"

EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining
Harford's Prosperity"

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our
Environment"

QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is
Important to Harford
County Citizens"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 26, 2012

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Harford County Government Prepares for Severe Weather Conditions

(Bel Air, MD) - - Harford County Government has started planning and preparation for severe weather as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Emergency preparedness actions are being coordinated by the Division of Emergency Operations.

"Hurricane Sandy is a severe storm with potential for a significant impact to Harford County as well as the entire State of Maryland," said County Executive David R. Craig. "We urge citizens to immediately begin to take all necessary preparations in response to Hurricane Sandy and the severe weather we are anticipating," Craig remarked.

The Harford County Division of Emergency Operations recommends the following precautionary measures for citizens to take prior to the impact of Hurricane Sandy:

- Ensure homes are equipped with flashlights and fresh batteries. In the event of a loss of electricity, use flashlights in lieu of candles for emergency lighting.
- Have at least a three (3) day supply of fresh water and canned goods available for you and your family.
- Have at least one battery powered portable radio available and in good working order to monitor news and weather information regarding the storm.
- Keep curb areas and storm drains clear of leaves and other debris which may impact proper drainage and result in flooded streets.
- When using portable generators for power, never bring the generator into the home or enclosed area as this may result in carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Use only outdoor cooking equipment such as grills or barbecues outdoors in well ventilated areas.
- Should flooding occur in a basement area, do not call 9-1-1 for assistance unless a true fire emergency is imminent. Local fire departments do not respond to pump out basements during natural disasters.

(more)

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The Harford County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be activated throughout the duration of the storm emergency. As further information and developments are available, the EOC will notify the public through media as well as direct calls through the Harford County Emergency Notification System. For further information regarding the Emergency Notification System and to sign-up to receive emergency messages at a home or cell phone, visit www.harfordpublicsafety.org and click on the icon “sign up now” or call 410-638-4900.

“The citizens of Harford County are well served by an outstanding team of well trained and experienced law enforcement, fire and emergency medical service providers. Nonetheless, everyone needs to do their part in preparation of the severe weather Harford County may receive as a result of Hurricane Sandy,” County Executive Craig said.

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“Preserving Harford’s past; promoting Harford’s future”